

ITALIANS TAKE TWO TOWNS IN SOUTH TYROL

Ala Captured in Stiff Fight, and Storo, West of Lake Garda, Also Falls.

INVASERS PRESS ON IN MARCH AGAINST TRIESTE

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

Rome, May 29.—Riva, the important Austrian town at the head of Lake Garda, is under bombardment by Italian batteries placed on the heights west of the place. This is the result of the capture by the Italians of the village of Storo on Lake Idro, which fell into the invaders' hands after a stiff fight.

It was officially announced to-day that the Italians have occupied Ala, on the railway running up the Adige Valley. Ala is about four miles from the Italian frontier and fifty-nine from Trent.

The War Office issued the following statement to-day:

On the Trentino frontier Italian artillery at Tonale Pass (on the western border) and Asiago village (on the southeastern side) continued the bombardment of the Austrian forts, which still reply vigorously. The Austrian forts at Luserna, Rusa and Spizerville have been seriously damaged by our fire.

On May 27 Italian infantry and artillery advanced along both sides of the Adige and occupied Ala. The engagement lasted from noon until evening. The Italian losses were slight.

On the eastern side of Lake Garda the Italians who gained possession Thursday of Monte Alaisimo, a peak of the Monte Baldo range, are shelling Serravalle, between Ala and Rovereto. The Italians have placed mountain guns along the entire range of high hills and are bombarding all the Austrian positions in the valley.

The invading army which crossed the Trentino frontier at the town of Caffaro is endeavoring to make its way along the northern shore of Lake Garda to fall on Riva and Mori.

Reports from the eastern frontier tell of a serious situation at Trieste, which is said to have been abandoned by the Austrian officials. The civil government is in the hands of a committee, which is unable to restrain the anti-Italian mobs, and Italian property has suffered greatly. The police are making little or no effort to quell the disturbances.

An official report says that Italians have entered Gradisca and are threatening Gorizia. The last finite reports from that region describe the Italians as before Gradisca, apparently waiting for a general advance of the entire line.

The forty mile front where it is established on Austrian territory. Tonale Peak, near Monfalcone, has been captured and the town itself, an important railway center, is expected to fall into the hands of the invaders without delay.

Investigation of various spy stories has revealed an elaborate espionage system organized in Italy by Austro-German agents in the guise of tourists. It is stated that it was owing to these arrangements that an Austrian warship which bombarded Serravalle, sixteen miles from Ancona, was able to fire with such accuracy as to demolish a revolving railroad bridge. A troop train was passing over the bridge at the time and several soldiers were killed.

Gen. Asinari, Mayor of Ancona, had been arrested, captured and released after the bombardment of the city, tried by court-martial and shot.

The negotiations between Italy and Russia for the exchange of prisoners of war and Italian nationalities, respectively, have been resumed. Russia made the proposal several months ago, but Italy declined on the ground that the exchange of prisoners would be a violation of the armistice. It is believed that the negotiations will lead to a satisfactory arrangement.

VENICE BOMBARDED.

Austrian Aviators Cause Explosion in Port San Nicolo.

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Venice, May 29.—Premier Salandra has written to thank and praise the numerous Senators and Deputies who have offered to enlist in the army or navy. He says the Ministers of War and of the Navy have received the applications with gratitude, but cannot avail themselves of the proffered services because Italy does not need soldiers, having in fact more than enough for both the present and future.

The Premier suggests that the Senators and Deputies who are anxious to join in assuming the organization of the committee to give assistance to the families of soldiers. He would have them preside over special committees formed throughout Italy with the object of ascertaining the needs of the people and of raising funds. The Government, adds the Premier, will gladly cooperate in any work of this kind.

HAS TOO MANY SOLDIERS.

Offers of Senators and Deputies Are Declined With Thanks.

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In the coastal lands minor battles have occurred. At Karfere (Caporetto) an Italian battalion was dispersed. North of Goetz (Gorizia) the attacks by the enemy were repulsed.

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AUSTRIA ALWAYS FOE OF ITALY, SAYS DE SANTO

University of Pennsylvania Professor Declares Triple Alliance Brought No Aid to Latin Nation—Cites Many Manifestations of Enmity.

By PROF. VINCENZO DE SANTO, University of Pennsylvania.

May 4, 1915, the denunciation of the Triple Alliance on the part of Italy, marks one of the most brilliant pages in the annals of the Italian people. The knowledge of this denunciation caused a great sigh of relief in the breast of every Italian. It was as if an oppressive and despised weight had been taken off our back; it was our first great victory against the Teutons in this world's struggle.

Italy has been accused of perfidy; she has been called faithless and mercenary; she has also been put ahead of England in the list of the most hated nations of the earth in Germany. All of this and more we expected from the Teutons, and therefore are not at all impressed by it. We are very much concerned, however, to find that there are still a few Americans who are bent upon blaming Italy for her entrance in the war against her former allies. The attitude of these former allies is the result of a misunderstanding, and it is largely due to the fact that this small percentage of the American people have not had the time or opportunity to study over the reasons that have prompted Italy to take the step she has taken.

We esteem so much and are so much in need of the friendship and moral support of America that we cannot afford to leave one American uninformed of the truth in this great question. Let us, therefore, cast a rapid glance upon the past and study the relation between Italy and the Teutonic nations for the last half a century.

By way of introduction, let me say that the Latins and the Teutons were never since the time of Caesar on very friendly terms. They were always enemies, and each other in a state of peace forever by circumstances. As for a perfect, mutual understanding, productive of enduring harmony, we can find no trace of it between the two peoples. The soul of the Teutons is so different from that of the Latins.

Results of 1870.

Now let us go back for a moment to the year 1870. In that memorable year, with the taking of Rome, Italy emerged into life a new and united nation, full of glory and full of hope. The joy of the new freedom made the people forget for the time being the horrors of war they had just gone through; the atrocities inflicted upon them, especially by Austria; the martyrdom of so many thousands of noble and valiant youths; and even the fact that two provinces, Trent and Trieste, which had fought for freedom, had been sold to the enemy.

Besides being forgetful of these woes, Italy had not yet had the time to realize the prevailing conditions in which she found herself. Financially, she was on the brink of bankruptcy. The percentage of illiteracy was appalling throughout the country, commerce was undeveloped and, what was worse, she was isolated as a nation, a policy extremely dangerous for her, especially because there was danger of being attacked by Austria and Germany together, with a view to restore to her the temporal power. In 1870, Bismarck had made the Pope a prisoner, and the Pope had been reduced to a prisoner of the Prussian army.

It did not take very long, however, for the Italian Government as well as the people to realize the danger of isolation. In seeking an alliance it was natural to look to France first, but Bismarck, who should be called the "Iron Chancellor," had in the sense that he had no scruple whatever, was too wise to permit a Franco-Italian alliance which later would have been a hindrance to the development of France. Accordingly at the Congress of Berlin in 1875 he suggested to France to occupy Tunis, which he had previously "signed" to Italy. The occupation of Tunis by the French of this land a few years later caused such a disappointment in Italy that for a moment the whole nation was on the verge of despondency. A Franco-Italian alliance became impossible.

Hismarck Repels Italy.

Italy would have by far preferred isolation rather than approach Berlin, but this would have meant suicide. She, therefore, like a woman who had been insulted by her rightful lover, turned to Bismarck and with a husky, upstretched cheeks asked him for his friendship. He received her with kindness and promised her many a thing, but when it came to the drawing up of the business affairs must be transacted at the Vienna Foreign Office, as Germany could not consider an alliance with Italy unless she

AUSTRALIA TO SEND 100,000 MEN TO WAR

Ex-Premier Watson Tells of Plans to Support the Allies.

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Desperate Charge by 1915 Class Carries Day in Battle for Le Pretre Wood.

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